



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Nearly half a million people served through Chevron's Walk Wise road safety program in China

Chengdu, China—July 21, 2021

AIP Foundation celebrates the end of a highly successful nine-year partnership with Chevron, investing in vulnerable communities by providing road safety interventions through their signature <u>Walk Wise program</u>. Through targeted education, nearly 160,000 students in two provinces in China benefitted from learning life-saving safety skills as road users. The powerful impact of *Walk Wise* led to a 26% decrease in reported accidents involving students from the local community.

The *Walk Wise* program began in 2011 with an evidence-based approach to saving lives by conducting a community-needs assessment and road safety situation analysis. In the Kaizhou District, Chongqing Municipality and Xuanhan County, Sichuan Province, the land is mountainous with rugged terrain and steep, rocky, or with poor-quality roads. Despite these dangerous conditions, approximately 78% of students walk to and from school every day. Chevron supported AIP Foundation with the urgent task to invest in community road safety in these areas.

*Walk Wise* demonstrated its success early on as it tested, revised, and scaled up the introduction of life-saving road safety curriculum, from its initial two pilot schools in 2012 to 102 schools by 2019. The curriculum was developed from the ground up, with cooperation from local teachers, insightful input from the community and field expertise to address the immediate needs of children, parents, and school staff. The program also promoted safer journeys for children and community members through 1,194 road infrastructure modifications, which increased proper crosswalk usage from 43% to 80%.

"We are pleased to see the efforts in education have resulted in a positive behavior change among children. Improving the mobility of members of the local communities ensures they have better access to education, markets, and healthcare," said Mr. Walt Perez, President of Chevron China Energy Company.

*Walk Wise* facilitated a new culture of safety through capacity building. Educators were instrumental in the program as 2,095 teachers received training in road safety. *Walk Wise* further enhanced the capacity of 130 government institutions to strengthen their ability to manage and implement road safety action plans. One of the teachers who became a Master Trainer shared, "I can see the changes in my students.... Now, they wait at a safe place and check for vehicles before crossing...I believe that even if just one person starts to make a change, the roads in our community will become safe."

"With the support of Chevron, our program ensures that even the youngest road users become positive role models at school and home," shared Mr. Greig Craft, Founder and President of AIP Foundation.

To ensure sustainable change for the future safety of communities, *Walk Wise* has combined the influence of comprehensive road safety education, impactful investments in infrastructure, public awareness campaigns, and empowerment of its local partners, to change the perceptions and attitudes of communities.

Read the Walk Wise program's accomplishments here.

Watch how Chevron improved road safety and mobility through the Walk Wise program here.

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# **About Chevron**

As a leading energy company in the Asia-Pacific region, Chevron provides affordable, reliable, and ever-cleaner energy for millions of people. We create local economic opportunity, contribute to the energy security of the region's nations, and strive to empower people to meet their full potential. We are active in Australia, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand. With some of the most productive and long-established energy basins in the world, we are applying human ingenuity and advanced technology to develop major capital projects, increase production from mature fields and explore for new energy resources.

## **About AIP Foundation**

AIP Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low and middle-income countries. For over 20 years, AIP Foundation has been delivering effective road safety programs in locations across Asia and Africa. To find out more, visit www.aip-foundation.org or connect with us on Twitter @AIPFoundation.

## **For Media Contact**

Zody T. Huynh, Communications Manager AIP Foundation (+84-28) 6299-1409 Ext. 106 zody.huynh@aipf-vietnam.org

Cam Van Ast, Chevron Asia Pacific External Affairs Advisor +61 9216 4462 cameron.vanast@chevron.com